

Forum: General Assembly 3

Issue: Twenty-first century universal immigration rules and norms

Student Officer: Raisa Hassan

Position: Chair

Introduction

In the 21st century regardless of the growing globalisation (in terms of economy trade and investment) countries are still very distinctive in their rules and norms especially when it come to the topic of immigration.

though the number of people seeking to immigrate or have immigrated has significantly grown over the course of time (creating a myth of "freer flow of people around the world ") the demand for the final destination remains unevenly distributed, hence immigration rules for some countries are more complex and limiting then others. regardless there do tend to be similarities such as but not limited to, the requirement of residency in a country in order to gain citizenship (the duration of the stay differs). The rate of immigration has doubled in the past 50 years leading to an estimated 191 million immigrants world wide, this unusually rapid growth has shaped to be one of the major topics of discussion and debate in media worldwide.

Key terms

immigration :the process of coming to live permanently in a country that is not your own; the number of people who do this

emigration: to leave your own country to go and live permanently in another country

globalisation : the fact that different cultures and economic systems around the world are becoming connected and similar to each other because of the influence of large multinational companies and of improved communication

naturalisation: to make a person who was not born in a particular country a citizen of that country

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international economic organization of 34 countries, the purpose of the organization is to stimulate economic progress and world trade.

Migrant- One that moves from one region to another by chance, instinct, or plan

General overview of the topic

Immigration can have positive and negative impacts on both the host country, and the original country.

host country benefits include but are not limited to, acquiring new skill into the economy through immigration as many immigrants often do jobs the citizens of host countries do not or can not do, including low paying work with horrible hours, the new skills can also contribute to the advancement in the economy of the country. They also contribute to the economical and social diversity of a country.

however with this also comes great drawbacks such as but not limited to, the original countries of the immigrant, usually developing countries, suffer from a loss of skilled workers. Immigrants can also be associated with criminal activities such as drug trafficking. in many societies immigrants can also be the victim of racism, due to the local people believing that immigrants appear to get more benefits than local poor people, tensions and hostilities can also rise. at times the entrance of immigrants can raise the competition level, this can either act as a catalyst for the economy to improve for the host country or create an increased rate of unemployment in the host country.

Major Parties Involved

United States of America

The US was home to 1,130,200 immigrants in 2009, a rise of 2.1% on 2008.

United Kingdom

has both a high immigration and emigration rate, being classified as the "8th highest for the number of people migrating to other OECD countries) with 133,000 migrants in 2009. also a rise of an astonishing 14.5% reported in 2009, since the already high rate of 2008.

China- was the top country for immigration into OECD countries in 2009 with 468,000 nationals emigrating

West Bank and Gaza- have had one of the largest percentages of emigrants in the world; United Arab Emirates and Qatar- as of 2008 have had one of the largest percentages of immigrants in the world.

Bangladesh, Mexico, Philippines- are countries in the countries of origin for the largest number of migrants in recent decades

Timeline of events

1795 -Naturalization Act restricts citizenship to "free white persons" who reside in the United States for five years and renounce their allegiance to their former country.

1798-The Alien and Sedition Acts permit the President to deport any foreigner deemed to be dangerous. A revised Naturalization Act imposes a 14-year residency requirement for prospective citizens.

1802-Congress reduce the residency requirement for citizenship to five years.

1808-The importation of slaves into the United States is prohibited.

1831-Pennsylvania permits bilingual instruction in English and German in its public schools.

1848 -Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, concluding the Mexican War, extends citizenship to approximately 80,000 Mexican residents of the Southwest.

1849-California Gold Rush spurs immigration from China.

1870 -Naturalization Act limits American citizenship to "white persons and persons of African descent," barring Asians from U.S. citizenship.

Russia's May Laws severely restrict the ability of Jewish citizens to live and work in Russia.

1882-The country's instability prompts more than three million Russians to immigrate to the United States over three decades.

The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 suspends immigration of Chinese laborers under penalty of imprisonment and deportation.

1892 Ellis Island opens; serves as processing center for 12 million immigrants over the next 30 years.

1901 After President William McKinley is assassinated by a Polish anarchist, Congress enacts the Anarchist Exclusion Act, which allows immigrants to be excluded on the basis of their political opinions.

1907 Expatriation Act declares that an American woman who marries a foreign national loses her citizenship.

Under the Gentleman's Agreement with Japan, the United States agrees not to restrict Japanese immigration in exchange for Japan's promise not to issue passports to Japanese laborers for travel to the continental United States. Japanese laborer are permitted to go to Hawaii, but are barred by executive order from migrating from Hawaii to the mainland.

- 1913 California's Alien Land Law prohibits "aliens ineligible for citizenship" (Chinese and Japanese) from owning property in the state. It provides the model for Similar acts in other states.
- 1917 Congress enacts a literacy requirement for immigrants over President Woodrow Wilson's veto. The law requires immigrants to be able to read 40 words in some language. The law also specifies that immigration is prohibited from Asia, except from Japan and the Philippines.
- 1921 Quota Act limits annual European immigration to 3 percent of the number of a nationality group in the United States in 1910.
- 1922 Cable Act partially repeals the Expatriation Act, but declares that an American woman who marries an Asian still loses her citizenship.
- 1923 In the landmark case of *United States v. Bhaghat Singh Thind*, the Supreme Court rules that Indians from the Asian subcontinent could not become naturalized U.S. citizens.
- 1924 The Johnson-Reed Act limits annual European immigration to 2 percent of the number of nationality group in the United States in 1890.
- Oriental Exclusion Act prohibits most immigration from Asia, including foreign-born wives and children of U.S. citizens of Chinese ancestry.
- 1940 The Alien Registration Act requires the registration and fingerprinting of all alien in the United States over the age of 14. The act classifies Korean immigrants as subjects of Japan.
- 1942 Filipinos are reclassified as U.S. citizens, making it possible for them to register for the military.
- Executive Order 9066 authorizes the military to evacuate 112,000 Japanese Americans from the Pacific coast and placed them in ten internment camps.
- 1943 The Chinese Exclusion Act is repealed. By the end of the 1940s, all restrictions on Asians acquiring U.S. citizenship are abolished.
- Congress creates the Bracero Program a guest worker program bringing temporary agricultural workers into the United States from Mexico. The program ended in 1964.

- 1945 The War Brides Act allows foreign-born wives of U.S. citizens who had served in the U.S. armed forces to enter the United States.
- 1946 Fiancés of American soldiers were allowed to enter the United States.
- The Luce-Cellar Act extends the right to become naturalized citizens to Filipinos and Asian Indians. The immigration quota is 100 people a year.
- 1948 The Displaced Persons Act permits Europeans displaced by the war to enter the United States outside of immigration quotas.
- 1950 The Internal Security Act, passed over President Harry Truman's veto, bars admission to any foreigner who is a Communist or who might engage in activities "which would be prejudicial to the public interest, or would endanger the welfare or safety of the United States."
- 1953 Refugee Relief Act extends refugee status to non-Europeans.
- 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act repeals the national origins quota system and gives priority to family reunification.
- 1980 Refugee Act, enacted in response to the boat people fleeing Vietnam, grants asylum to politically oppressed refugees.
- 1990 The Immigration Act of 1990 increases the number of immigrants allowed into the United States each year to 700,000.
- 1996 The Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act strengthens border enforcement and makes it more difficult to gain asylum. The law establishes income requirements for sponsors of legal immigrants.
- The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act, Congress makes citizenship a condition of eligibility for public benefits for most immigrants.
- 1997 Congress restores benefits for some elderly and indigent immigrants who had previously received them.
- 1998 The Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act and the the

Noncitizen Benefit Clarification and Other Technical Amendments Act restore additional public benefits to some immigrants.

The American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act increases the number of skilled temporary foreign workers U.S. employers are allowed to bring into the country.

UN involvement relevant resolutions, treaties and events

In the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights the UN instructs all countries to allow entry to its own citizens. The UN focuses on ensuring the treatment of migrants and immigrants in the host countries. Creating conventions dedicated to such right (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001435/143557e.pdf>) in order to insure a equal environment for all people regardless of migrant or immigrant status.

Possible solutions

In order to prevent an increase in unemployment in host countries, rules should be strictly set for countries to only permit immigrants as per optimum capacity of the host country. Taking a planned approach towards the distribution of the immigrant, by evaluating each country's need for and capacity to attain immigrants and then directing the immigrants accordingly. (GOP)

work cited

"Changing Faces: Immigrants and Diversity in the Twenty-First Century." *The Brookings Institution*. N.p., n.d. Web. 2 Aug. 2013.

"Employment Rights of Immigrants Under Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws." *Facts About*. N.p., n.d. Web. 9 Aug. 2013.

"Immigration." - *Global Issues*. N.p., n.d. Web. 12 Aug. 2013.

"Immigration Law." *Immigration Law*. N.p., n.d. Web. 12 July 2013.

"Millennium Forum Declaration." *UN News Center*. UN, n.d. Web. 6 Aug. 2013.

"Moving America Forward." *Democrats.org*. N.p., n.d. Web. 7 Aug. 2013.

"Reforming Government to Serve the People." *GOP*. N.p., n.d. Web. 8 Aug. 2013.

"Remarks By Tom Donilon, National Security Advisor to the President: 'The United States and the Asia-Pacific in 2013'" *The White House*. N.p., n.d. Web. 7 Aug. 2013.